[English]

Kelkar Committee Report

77. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received Kelkar Committee Report on strategic planning and restructuring of oil industry;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) whether the Government have examined the financial implication involved in the Oil Sector reforms and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the time-frame for the implementation of oil sector reforms as recommended by Kelkar Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d). The report of "Strategic Planning Group" formed for restructuring of the National Oil Industry is being examined by the Government.

Private Power Project

78. SHRI DINSHA PATEL :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of private investment in the sector during the last three years;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether full utilisation was not made of the private investment during the period; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

LPG Bottling Plant

79. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval for setting up an LPG Bottling Plant in District Purnea of Bihar has been granted under the plan for the year 1995-96;

(b) whether necessary directions have been given to the Indian Oil Corporation for early setting-up of the said Bottling Plant; and

(c) if so, the time by which the plant is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir. Approval for setting up of an LPG bottling plant of 10 TMTPA capacity in district Purnea of Bihar by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation was conveyed in January, 1996.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation has initiated action for procurement of land of the bottling plant. It would take about 14 months from the possession of land to commission the bottling plant.

World Bank Threat

80. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has threatened to cancel the remaining tranches of its $ 1.2 billion loan to NTPC in view of the huge payment arrears from various SEBs;

(b) if so, the total payment arrears from SEBs;

(c) whether the loss of World Bank loan is likely to affect the major development plants of NTPC;

(d) whether NTPC has urged the Government to take immediate steps to ask the SEBs to settle the dues to inject the necessary funds for repayment; and

(e) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The World Bank has recently indicated suspension of on-going loans and deferment of new loan to National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), in view of NTPC's receivables exceeding the Covenanted level of two months billing.

(b) As on 31.10.1996, an amount of Rs. 5084.47 crores including surcharge of Rs.1615.85 crores is due from State Electricity Boards (SEBs).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Government has recently decided to effect recovery of dues of Central Power Sector Utilities from SEBs by appropriation from the Plan Assistance to the respective States.

Shortage of Power

81. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has